

REMARKS

Claims 2-6, 8-14, 18 and 19 are pending and have been examined in the present application.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowance of claim 19. Applicant respectfully submits, however, that each of claims 2-6, 8-14 and 18 are also patentable over the art of record as described below.

In numbered paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner had crossed-out these references listed in the Information Disclosure Statements submitted on August 21, 2002 and had not considered them apparently because a copy of the listed references was missing. Applicant has submitted a copy of the references along with the original submission on August 21, 2002. However, for the Examiner's convenience, Applicant again submits the Information Disclosure Statement of August 21, 2002, along with a copy of the references cited therein. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider these references and return an initialed copy of the PTO/SB/08A Form with the next communication on this matter.

The objection to the specification is noted. In response, Applicant has amended the specification at page 2 to remove the reference to the US Patent Application. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-4, 8-14 and 18 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,590,878 to Uchida et al. (Uchida '878) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,532,364 to Uchida et al. (Uchida '364). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claims 2-6 and Claims 8-12

Among the limitations of independent claims 2 and 8 which are neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art of record is a wireless local loop access network which includes a memory which is readable by the base station controller and which “stores a first identifier used for identifying a subscriber in an interface protocol between said wireless local loop access network system and said public switched telephone network, a second identifier used for identifying a subscriber in a radio-signal interface protocol in said wireless local loop access network system, and data about correspondence between said first and second identifiers.”

Because the memory included in the wireless local loop access network system stores a first identifier in an interface protocol between the wireless local loop access network system and a public switched telephone network, a second identifier in a radio interface protocol and data about correspondence between the first and second identifiers, the present invention eliminates the need for a local exchange in a public switched telephone network to take into consideration whether a subscriber is connected to the wireless local loop access network system through a radio interface. See Page 7, lines 15-23 of the present specification.

While Uchida '878 is directed to a mobile communications system, it neither teaches nor suggests that the memory readable by the mobile switching center stores a first identifier used for identifying a subscriber in an interface protocol between the wireless local loop access network system and the public switched telephone network and a second identifier used for identifying a subscriber in a radio-signal interface protocol in the wireless local loop access network system.

Uchida '878 merely teaches that the memory is used to facilitate communication between the base station and the wireless local loop, and these communications are only via

a radio interface protocol. See Column 10, lines 61-63 of Uchida `878. As described in Uchida `878 at column 12, lines 27-48, the memory 67 used in the mobile switching center 5 is merely used to transfer information about a magnitude of the transmission power or an assigned time slot so as to access the target base station. Thus, the memory 67 disclosed in Uchida `878 does not store a first identifier used for identifying a subscriber in an interface protocol between the wireless local loop access network system and the public switched telephone network and a second identifier used for identifying a subscriber in a radio-signal interface protocol in the wireless local loop access network system, as required by independent claims 2 and 8.

Uchida `364 does not remedy any of the deficiencies of Uchida `878. Uchida `364 is directed to a mobile communications system which adjusts for deficiencies in a hand-over process when a mobile station switches between radio base stations connected to a public network. These communications, however, are only via a radio interface protocol. See column 11, lines 18-28. In particular, Uchida `364 uses serial numbers provided by a mobile switching center to perform the hand-over process between two adjacent base stations that are in communication with a mobile station.

Contrary to the assertions in the Office Action, the memory 98 shown in Fig. 5 of Uchida `364 merely includes registration information relating to the mobile stations which are managed by the mobile switching center. See Uchida `364 at column 13, lines 52-59. Thus, Uchida `364 neither teaches nor suggests that the memory readable by the mobile switching center stores a first identifier used for identifying a subscriber in an interface protocol between the wireless local loop access network system and the public switched telephone network and a second identifier used for identifying a subscriber in a radio-signal interface protocol in the wireless local loop access network system, as required by independent claims 2 and 8.

Therefore, even if one were to combine the teachings of Uchida `878 and Uchida `364, one would not arrive at the present invention as defined in independent claims 2 and 8. At best, the combination of Uchida `878 and Uchida `364 would result in a system that only communicates by a radio protocol and uses serial numbers provided by a mobile switching center to perform the hand-over process between two adjacent base stations that are in communication with a mobile station. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 2 and 8 patently distinguishes over the art of record.

Claims 3-6 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 2 and include all of the limitations found therein. Claims 9-12 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 8 and include all of the limitations found therein. Each of these dependent claims include additional limitations which, in combination with the limitations of the claims from which they depend, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art of record. Accordingly, Claims 3-6 and 9-12 are likewise patentable.

Claims 13-14

Among the limitations of Independent Claim 13 which are neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art of record is a method of operating a wireless local loop access network system which includes “transmitting and origination message in a radio protocol to said base station controller through said base station when a subscriber hooks a terminal off”, “accessing said data stored in said memory to obtain an address in a public switched telephone network protocol based on said origination message” and “transmitting a first message in said public switched telephone network protocol together with said address in said public switched telephone network protocol to said public switched telephone network.”

There is nothing within Uchida `878 and/or Uchida `364 which teaches or even remotely suggests that an origination message is transmitted in a radio protocol, then a

memory is accessed to obtain an address in a public switched telephone network protocol, and then a first message is transmitted in the public switched telephone network protocol along with the address obtained from the memory to the public switched telephone network. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 13 patently distinguishes over the art of record.

Claim 14 depends directly from independent claim 13 and includes all the limitations found therein as well as additional limitations which, in combination with the limitations of independent claim 13, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art of record. Accordingly, claim 14 is likewise patentable.

Claim 18

Among the limitations of independent claim 18 which are neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art of record is a method of operating a wireless local loop access network system which includes “said public switched telephone network transmitting a first signal to said base station controller in a public switched telephone network protocol when said public switched telephone network receives a phone call to a subscriber”; “said base station controller accessing said memory to obtain a first identifier in said public switched telephone network protocol for identifying said subscriber”; and “said base station controller transmitting a page message in a radio protocol to said base station, said page message indicating that a phone call to said subscriber has been received and including said first identifier.”

There is nothing within Uchida `878 and/or Uchida `364 which teaches or even remotely suggests a method of operating a wireless local loop access network system wherein signals are transmitted which include both a radio protocol and a public switched telephone network protocol as required by independent claim 18. In fact, inasmuch as Uchida `878 and Uchida `364 teach that transmission is carried out in only a radio

protocol, and not a combination of a radio protocol and a public switched telephone network protocol, they teach away from the present invention as defined in independent claim 18. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 18 patently distinguishes over the art of record.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon has been carefully reviewed. It is believed that these references, either alone or combined with any other references of record, do not render the pending claims unpatentable.

In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration of the amendments to the specification, and allowance of the present application with claims 2-6, 8-14, 18 and 19 is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

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